

Subject: Moorish astrolabe

Hoffman, Samuel Verplanck
[258 Broadway, NYC]

January 2, 1932

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Mr. Samuel V. Hoffman
258 Broadway
New York City.

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

I worked the past two holidays on your astrolabe and have worked out all of the numbers and most of the lettering. The date, however, still is elusive. The open work disc has the signs of the zodiac and the names of stars. Only a few of these stars I have worked out but it convinces me that all the names must be of stars. The other discs are nearly all alike, except the name in the center which represents a locality. We have Mecca, Egypt, Morocco City, Fez, Tunis and Algiers and a town I have not been able to locate. Possibly the information you have on the other Arabic piece could help me with the stars on this. Your piece is undoubtedly Moorish, shown by the type of the lettering and the names of the two Moorish cities. I expect to be in any day this coming week except Thursday. I beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

HW: JG

Curator